

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 7-15 have been canceled. New Claims 16-25 are active in the case. The present invention relates to a very hard coated film that has a low refractive index.

Claim Amendments

New Claim 16 has been introduced into the claims, basis for which can be found on page 19, lines 21-22 of the specification. New Claims 17-25 find support in previously active Claims 7-15. None of the new introduce new matter into the record of the case. Entry of the new claims into the record is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection, 35 USC 103

Applicants retain their previously stated position with respect to the prior art of record in this case. In this connection, applicants emphatically disagree with the Examiner's stated opinion in the Advisory Action that *while the data shown by applicants in their specification may show a difference in properties of the films when using ureidopropyltrimethoxysilanes, such working examples do not clearly show unexpected results.* The data in Table 1 show that for the hardened coatings obtained from embodiments of the present invention, at the desired level of surface refractivity, coatings are obtained which show significantly superior surface scratch resistance to different loads placed on the steel wool that is used to abrade the surfaces. Embodiments of coatings outside the scope of the present claims simply do not demonstrate the improved abrasion resistance of the present invention in view of tested surfaces which show much more extensive surface scratch marks when subjected to abrasion. Accordingly, the present invention is believed to be patentably distinct over the prior art and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

It is believed that the application is in proper condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)



Frederick D. Vastine, Ph.D.
Registration No. 27,013

NFO:FDV